

NEW BRISTOL LIBRARY



BILLERICAY
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1937

Billericay Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1937.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE DISTRICT:

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. J. DOUGLAS WELLS, O.B.E. (Mil.).

District Medical Officers and Public Vaccinators:

Dr. ARTHUR QUENNEL. Dr. W. SHACKLETON.

Dr. J. C. CAMPBELL.

Pathologist:

Dr. BEALE, 91 Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.

Sanitary Inspector: A. L. LEDDEN, M.S.I.A., Cert. S.I.B.

Second Sanitary Inspector: R. S. SHEARS, M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.

Surveyor: H. B. MAYHEW, F.I.A.S.

Assistant Surveyor: G. C. CLARK, M.Inst., M. & Cy.E., P.A.S.I.

Assistant Highways Surveyor: J. SEPTIMUS BROWN, M.Inst., M. & Cy.E.

Building Inspectors:

T. G. GOZZETT T. D. MERRETT

R. G. CUMMINGS E. E. MARLTON

Manager of Sewage Works: D. M. BETTS.

ISOLATION HOSPITAL STAFF:

Matron: Miss M. COBLEY, S.R.N.

Sister: Miss D. LIPSCOMBE.

Staff Nurse: Miss B. EGAN.

Assistant Nurses:

Miss CONWAY, Miss JERVIS, Miss JONES, Miss HACKETT,
Miss VEELEY.

Ambulance Driver: P. E. MUNT.

Porters: W. MUNT, A. GRAY.

Gardener: J. CULLUM.

Clerk of the Council: A. D. CHESHIRE.

Assistant Clerk: J. KEMP.

To the Chairman and Members of the Billericay Urban District Council:

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report upon the health and sanitary circumstances of the Billericay Urban District as it was on December 31st, 1937. This is an ordinary Report.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area: 29,217 acres.

Population: 34,560.

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1937, according to the

Rate Book: 10,634.

Rateable Value: £187,717.

Sum represented by a Penny Rate: £679.

Social Conditions—Industries—Unemployment.

There has been no change in the Social Conditions since my last report. Agriculture is the chief industry in this district, particularly the dairy and poultry farming branches of it. The majority of the wage earning population still earn their living without the district.

Unemployment was reduced, due in some measure to sewerage and road making by the public authorities. There is no evidence that unemployment has exercised any significant influence on the health or physique of the children or adults of this area.

VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total	M.	F.
Live Births: Legitimate	432	210	222
Illegitimate	20	9	11
Total Birth Rate, Legitimate and Illegitimate: 13.65.			
Still Births	20	9	11
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live Births: 44.24.			

	Total	M.	F.	Death Rate
Deaths	410	225	185	11.86

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

From Puerperal Sepsis

From Other Puerperal Causes

Death Rate from Puerperal Causes per 1,000 Live and Still Births: 2.1.

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age.

1. All Infants per 1,000 Live Births: 52.96.

2. Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births: 55.5.

3. Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births: .72.

Deaths from Measles, 1.

Deaths from Whooping Cough, 1.

Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years), nil.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

- A. Laboratory Facilities. No change in the arrangements has occurred during the year. The following examinations from this district have been carried out at the Public Health Laboratories, 91 Queen Victoria Street, London:—

Specimen.	Numbers Examined.
Diphtheria	627
Sputa	50
Typhoid	7
Ringworm	3
General	96
Milk	21
Ice Cream	—
Water	14
Sewage	—
Total	808

Biological examinations for virulence test, nil.
For Tubercle Bacilli, nil.

- B. Ambulance Facilities. The ambulance stationed at the Isolation Hospital is the only one owned by this Authority. It is nine years old and frequently requiring repairs and overhaul to its body and engine. It was originally intended for the conveyance of infectious disease cases, but the services of a public ambulance are now asked for the conveyance of other than infectious cases, such as patients to be conveyed from General Hospitals outside the district to their homes within the district, or vice versa, or the conveyance of maternity cases from their homes to a hospital without the district. A higher authority than myself has stated that it is quite safe to use an infectious disease ambulance after due disinfection for the conveyance of non-infectious cases and where the ambulance body is in an efficient condition to enable disinfection to be thoroughly carried out I agree with the opinion expressed by the higher authority. The age and condition of wear of our infectious disease ambulance makes thorough disinfection problematical.

There is a further point to be considered in the use of our ambulance for non-infectious cases, and that is the supply of a Nurse to go with such cases. All our nurses at the Isolation Hospital are in constant contact with infectious diseases and so none are available to staff the ambulance except when used for infectious cases. It is

sometimes possible to get the local District Nurse for this job, but all local District Nurses are busy women and not readily available at short notice for ambulance work.

If the demand for the services of this Council's ambulance increases, this problem of staffing it will require serious consideration, and this point must be considered in the light of the fact that our Isolation Hospital and with it the ambulance, passes from the control of this Authority into that of a Joint Hospital Board during the coming year, which means that this Authority will not have an ambulance available for such non-infectious cases as I have referred to above.

The Essex County Council have an ambulance stationed at their Public Assistance Hospital. It is used not only for work in this district but can be used for any ambulance job required to be carried out in any part of the County.

Great Burstead and Benfleet Divisions of the St. John Ambulance Brigade have an ambulance available on payment.

- C. NURSING IN THE HOME. This Authority does not provide nurses for nursing any form of illness in the home.

Midwives Act, 1936—

I have been notified that the County Council who is the local supervising authority for this area, has appointed two nurses—Miss M. E. Price, The Anchorage, Berwick Road, Laindon, and Miss K. Calcott, "Norman," Church Park Drive, Pitsea, to act in the capacity of midwife and/or maternity nurse under the supervision of a registered medical practitioner.

The District Nurse Midwives and independent midwives already practising in this district are available as midwives as heretofore. The County Council has fixed the following as the maximum scale of fees chargeable to a patient for a County Council midwife:—

As midwife—£2 10s. 0d. plus a booking fee of 2/6, if the midwife is booked before the 28th week of pregnancy.

If booked after the 28th week the booking fee is 7/6.

As maternity nurse—£2, with booking fee as above.

For service in cases of abortion or miscarriage, £1.

The above fees are inclusive of all attendances considered necessary from a medical point of view, namely, prenatal, natal and post natal, and are in accordance with the rules of the Central Midwives' Board.

It should be noted that the above-mentioned fees are a maximum and that scaling downwards is carried out where the financial circumstances of the patient do not permit of the maximum scale.

- D. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES. These are under the control of the County Council.

HOSPITALS.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. The total number of cases admitted to our Hospital at Gooseberry Green during 1937 was 247, and in addition there were 21 cases admitted during 1936 still in hospital on January 1st, 1937.

The admissions for 1937 were from the following districts:

Billericay Urban District	.....	.....	.....	135
Brentwood Urban District	.....	.....	.....	100
Dagenham Urban District	.....	.....	.....	3
Rayleigh Urban District	.....	.....	.....	2
Canvey Urban District	.....	.....	.....	5
S. Benfleet and Thundersley Urban Districts	.....	.....	.....	1
Rochford Rural District	.....	.....	.....	1
Total				247

The Hospital has been more fully occupied during 1937 than in 1936. The highest number of patients resident was 47 and the lowest number was 3.

No alteration or extensions have been made at the Isolation Hospital during the year. A Joint Hospital Board has been formed for this and other surrounding districts, but our Hospital has not yet been taken over by this Board. Application has been made to the Minister for permission to sell our Hospital to the Joint Board.

The Hospital is very seriously in need of internal and external decoration, of an extended and modern laundry and of a new ambulance. I reported the matter to this Council during the year. They decided to take no action in view of the formation of the Joint Hospital Board and in the hope that it would be taken over by that Board in due course, when the financial burden of redecoration would not be placed solely on this Authority.

In December I received a letter from the County Medical Officer stating that the County Council had been making re-

arrangements for the admission of their cases of Puerperal Sepsis and allied conditions, and that in the rearrangements the County Council proposed to make more use of our Hospital for this class of case. We, like so many hospitals throughout the country, have experienced difficulty in obtaining nurses and domestics—our Matron and Nurses have had to work overtime on many occasions.

I wish to tender my thanks to the Matron and all the nursing and domestic staff for their willing and capable work.

No. of Midwives practising in the district 21

No. of Registered Nursing Homes 2

DEATH AT VARIOUS AGES DURING 1937.

January—December.

Age	No. of Deaths.
Under one year	25
1 and under 2	2
2 and under 5	3
5 and under 15	8
15 and under 25	10
25 and under 35	12
35 and under 45	18
45 and under 55	39
55 and under 65	51
65 and under 75	119
75 and onwards	123

Total Deaths 410

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1937.

Disease.	Total Notified.	Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Scarlet Fever	93	87	—
Pneumonia	35	3	20
Erysipelas	8	1	—
Chicken Pox	33	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	4	1
Diphtheria	32	31	1
Oph. Neonatorium	1	1	—
Paratyphoid	1	1	—
Enceph. Lethargica	1	—	—
Dysentery	20	—	—
Totals	230	128	22

Table of Notified Cases under their following Age Groups.

	Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-35	35-45	45-65	65 On wards
Scarlet Fever ...			2	4	3	44	23	5	7	4	1	
Pneumonia ...	1	1		1	2	1	2	1	3	5	9	9
Erysipelas ...							2			4	2	
Chicken Pox ...	2	1	1		1	17	6	1	4			
Puerperal Pyrexia									4	2		
Diphtheria ...		1	1		3	14	3	3	3	2	2	
Oph. Neon. ...	1											
Paratyphoid ...									1			
Enceph. Lethargica								1				
Dysentery ...		1	1	1		9	3			2	2	1
Totals	4	4	5	6	9	85	39	11	22	19	16	10

Table showing the Principal Zymotic Diseases occurring in the respective Parishes.

	Scarlet Fever	Pneu- monia	Erys.	Chicken pox	Puerp. Pyrexia	Diph- theria	Para- Typhoid	Enceph. Leth.	Dys- entery	Oph. Neon.
Billericay ...	1	5	1	4	2	5		1		
Great Burstead ...	1									
Little Burstead ...	1									
Lee Chapel ...					1	1				
Basildon ...	2	2		6		1				
Dunton ...	4	1								
Laindon ...	21	7	1	2		6			19	
Vange ...	21	9		5		1				
Pitsea ...	25	4	3	3		3	1			
Nevendon ...	2			1						
Wickford ...	7	1	1	7		6				1
Ramsden Bellhouse ...				1	1	1				
Ramsden Crays ...						4				
Bowers Gifford ...	4	1	1							
Mountnessing ...									1	
Buttsbury ...	1	2								
North Benfleet ...			1	1	1					
Crays Hill ...	1			3		1				
Langdon Hills ...	1	3			1	4				
Totals ...	92	35	8	33	6	33	1	1	20	1

WATER SUPPLY.

With the exception of the Parish of Langdon Hills, the district is mainly supplied with water from the Southend Waterworks Company.

As regards the portion of the district served by the Southend Waterworks Company, extensions were carried out during the year and 1 mile 1,107 yards of mains were laid. The Company has on its staff a fully qualified chemist and bacteriologist with staff and laboratory at Langford, and a daily sample for complete analysis is taken prior to the treated water leaving for distribution. A weekly sample is also taken for complete analysis from varying points in the area and from the sources of supply. An eminent firm of Consulting Chemists carry out a quarterly inspection of the Langford Works and take occasional samples in the Company's area of supply for chemical and bacteriological examination. The results obtained during 1937 were up to the usual high standard.

The Langdon Hills Waterworks is controlled by this Council, the water being supplied in bulk from the South East Essex Waterworks Company. Samples are taken by the Company at regular intervals prior to delivery and have been found to conform to the requirements of a good water supply.

Many houses situate on private estates are still without a piped water supply and rely on rain water collected from the roofs passing through filters. This supply cannot be regarded as entirely satisfactory as regards suitability and sufficiency. During the year 14 samples of water were taken from rain water wells for analysis, and of this number only one was found to be satisfactory. In most cases the pollution was found to be due to the ingress of surface water which, being derived from clay soil caused the water to be excessively hard, and in some cases found to be contaminated with organisms associated with sewage. In each case steps were taken to put the wells in order and to render the water fit for drinking purposes, but it is difficult to render such wells watertight in such a sub-soil.

In addition to the samples taken from rain water wells, five were taken from spring and artesian wells. Four of the samples proved satisfactory and the one that was unsatisfactory was found to be polluted by sewage from a fractured drain pipe. The drainage system was relaid and the well is now in order.

The question of ensuring a sufficient, efficient and wholesome supply of water to all houses and to all the new houses for which plans are submitted, has caused many discussions at meetings of this authority and its committees during the year.

As stated above, many houses still rely upon rain-water for their domestic supply. Its use involves no payment of a water rate and no charge for main laying by the Water Company. Even when efficiently collected in covered tanks, either above or underground, and when in addition it is passed through the usual coke and clinker filter, this water cannot be depended upon for any length of time as a pure and wholesome water for all domestic purposes. Its supply depends on forces outside man's control. A period of drought comes and these houses lack water. This authority receives many requests from individual householders or small groups of householders who reside in parts of the area where the water mains are not present, to provide them with a continuous and wholesome supply, especially during periods of drought. The Southend Waterworks Company which has parliamentary powers over almost the whole of this district are prepared to take the water to any and every house provided their costs for doing so are guaranteed and that they lose nothing by so doing. The cost of laying mains is not a light one. This Council has guaranteed the cost in many parts of its district and the mains were extended as shown above.

The Council paid £540 17s. 3d. during the year to the Southend Waterworks Company as a guarantee. This makes a considerable call on the rates—it is a call which increases yearly, and is likely to increase because the rateable value and the water rate paid by a very large number of the houses in this district is so small that the Company's charges are not likely to be met in an economic way.

Already the rates of the district are high—too high for many owners to be able to pay them. There is always a large rate arrears. This district is essentially a poor one. It has had to undertake large and costly sewerage disposal schemes—it had, and has, many unmade-up roads.

The alteration in the area made by the the County Council under the 1929 Act took away from the former Rural District all the best rateable parts and handed these over to neighbouring authorities. This re-distribution has penalised this district heavily and has made it for all time a poor district.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Much progress has been made with the extension of sewers throughout the district during the year. The sewers to serve Pitsea, Vange, Basildon and Bowers Gifford areas have been laid and the Outfall Works in connection with this system has made good progress and is likely to be completed during the coming year.

The sewer has also been extended up the Noak Hill Road, and down by Church Street and South Green, Great Burstead. These drain to the Laindon Outfall Works.

Under the Private Street Works activities sewerage facilities have been provided in the following roads:—

LAINDON.

Four Roads Manor House Estate.
Aston Road.
Brimsdown Avenue.
Barrett Grove.
Rusticana Crescent.
Somerset Road.
Doves Drive.
Ashleaves Avenue.
Manor Road.
Durham Road (part).

WICKFORD.

Five Roads Garden Village Estate.
Three Roads Beeches Estate.

LANGDON HILLS.

St. David's Road.
Samuel Road.
Emanuel Road.
Alexander Road.
Vowler Road.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Several instances have occurred during the year whereby streams have been found to be polluted by sewage, etc. The pollution was chiefly caused by drainage from cowsheds and dairies and the nuisances were abated upon representation being made to the persons causing the nuisance.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

Conservancy systems converted to water carriage systems during the past three years—709, of which 207 were converted during 1937.

Number of types of closets remaining at the end of 1937:

Water Closets	.....	.....	.....	3,839
Earth and Chemical Closets	.....	.....	.....	7,833
Privy Closets	.....	.....	.....	1
Total	.....	.....	.....	<hr/>11,673 <hr/>

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

REFUSE COLLECTION. During the year additional facilities for refuse collection were provided as follows:—

	Houses
4 Roads on Fairview Estate, Basildon	135
6 Roads on Highlands Estate, Vange	112
5 Roads on Kiln Farm Estate, Pitsea	49
4 Roads on Manor House Estate, Laindon	90
	<hr/>
Total	386
	<hr/>

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1937.

Number of Inspections made during the year:—

Dwelling houses with respect to defects:—

(a) Under Public Health Acts	761
(b) Under Housing Acts	596
Dwelling houses with respect to overcrowding	171
Premises with respect to vermin	136
Factories and Workshops	19
Slaughterhouses, Butchers' Shops and other Food Shops and Stalls	950
Cowsheds and Dairies	173
Watercourses under Section 54, Public Health Act, 1925, and Section 256, Public Health Act, 1936, and Other Nuisances	146
Houses visited with respect to water shortage and water supply	336
Dwelling Houses with respect to Infectious Disease	121
Shops Act (Shops Inspected)	71
Tents, Vans and Sheds	27
Offensive Trades	2
	<hr/>
Total	3,509
	<hr/>

Number of Notices served during the year:—

Statutory	.....	64
Informal	.....	445

Result of service of such Notices:—

Housing Acts.	Served.	Complied with.	Outstanding.
Statutory	21	18	3
Informal	109	87	22
Public Health Acts.			
Statutory	41	31	10
Informal	310	249	61
Factories and Workshops.			
Statutory	—	—	—
Informal	1	1	—
Milk and Dairies.			
Statutory	2	2	—
Informal	14	10	4
Meat and Foods.			
Statutory	—	—	—
Informal	2	2	—
Shops Act.			
Statutory	—	—	—
Informal	9	6	3
	<hr/> 509	<hr/> 406	<hr/> 103

SHOPS.

During the year 71 visits were made to shops under the provisions of the Shops Act, 1934, relating to ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences. In nine instances it was found that the requirements of the Act were not being complied with.

Informal notices were sent to the owners of the premises, and in six cases the requisitions were carried into effect. In the remaining three instances the work was in progress at the end of the year.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

In one instance a nuisance occurred by smoke from a chimney of a factory. Upon representation being made the chimney was lengthened and the nuisance abated.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are two privately-owned swimming pools in the district, one being salt water (near the creek at Vange), and one fresh water (fed by overflow from the Lake, Buttsbury). All possible steps are being taken to ensure the purity of the water for swimming purposes.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

1. (i) (a) Number of Council houses found to be infested
with bed bugs 3
(b) Number of other houses so infested 12
(ii) Total number defested 15
2. The method employed in defestation of premises from the bed bug is by the removal of the thick layers of paper where existing, the loosening of door frames, picture rails, skirting, etc., and spraying the walls with lethane. This method has been found to be very effective, but in some cases, as an extra precaution, sulphur candles have been used in conjunction with spraying.
3. Very few changes have taken place in the occupation of Council houses during the year, consequently no action has been necessary respecting defestation of prospective tenant's goods before removal.
4. The defestation of Council houses is carried out by the Council's Sanitary Inspectors, occasionally assisted by a person employed temporarily by the Council. As regards private houses the materials are provided by the Council gratis and the work is carried out by either owners or occupiers. In some cases the work has been carried out by the Council's staff, the owner paying for the services rendered.
5. Wherever infestation has been found and the premises defested, occupiers have been given instructions to report to the Council's Sanitary Inspectors any fresh infestation, steps are then taken to defest the premises.

The Council's Senior Sanitary Inspector attended a fortnight's course of vermin destruction at the Royal Sanitary Institute and the knowledge gained has been of considerable assistance in carrying out such work.

SCHOOLS.

There are sixteen elementary schools in this district. All are supplied with water and where possible are connected to a public sewer. Where the sewer is not available each school has a septic tank system of its own.

Two new Senior Schools were opened during the year. One at Wickford where additions and alterations were made to a fairly modern school, giving the increased accommodation required and bringing it quite up to modern requirements. The other at Billericay where an entirely new modern building has been erected on a very well chosen site. It has all the departments which modern education deems necessary for teaching the child of to-day to become a good and worthy citizen. Its playing fields surround the school.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year:—

(i) (a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)	919
(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose	1,720
(ii) (a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	260
(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	595
(iii)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	26
(iv)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	234

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	4
---	---

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year:—

A.	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(i)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	130
(ii)	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
(a)	By Owners	65
(b)	By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts:

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	336
(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
(a) By owners	262
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	7
(ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	7

D. Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

4. Housing Act, 1936. Part IV. Overcrowding.

A. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	63
(ii) Number of families dwelling therein	64
(iii) Number of persons dwelling therein	455½
B. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	32
C. (i) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	107
(ii) Number of persons concerned in such cases	591
D. Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	Nil

MILK AND DAIRIES.

The number of Registered Milk Producers and Purveyors at the end of 1937 was:

Wholesale Producers	Producers & Purveyors	Retail Purveyors
48	58	40

At the end of December, 1937, there were two Producers of "Tuberculin Tested" milk and 45 Producers of "Accredited" milk.

One hundred and seventy-three visits were paid to cowsheds and dairies during the year. This was less than the previous year as routine inspections to cowsheds were suspended owing to the prevalence of foot-and-mouth disease.

The number of notices served and the results of such notices were as follows:

	Served.	Complied with.	Outstanding.
Statutory	2	2	—
Informal	14	10	4

Samples of milk taken during the year:

(a) Billericay Urban District Council.

(i) Bacteriological Examination	14
(ii) Biological Examination	1
(iii) Methylene Blue Reduction Test	7
	— 22

(b) Essex County Council.

(i) Bacteriological Examination	—
(ii) Biological Examination	89
(iii) Methylene Blue Reduction Test	261
	— 350
Total	372

Where samples were found to be unsatisfactory the cowsheds were re-visited and the methods of production noted, and where necessary the milkers were advised as to clean milk production.

Although there is an increase of only three in the list of Designated milk producers, several other cowsheds and dairies have been brought up to the standard for the production of such milk.

MEAT AND FOODS.

During the year 950 visits were paid to slaughterhouses, meat and food shops and stalls. The majority of the inspections of carcasses were post mortem.

Shops visited under the Shops Act, 1934, were also inspected under the provisions of the Public Health Act relating to storage of food, and the number of such visits are included in action taken under the Shops Act, 1934.

Particulars as to food condemned, etc., are as follows:

	Cattle, excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed (if known)	399	137	164	1,821	4,110
Number Inspected	72	22	63	556	1,514
All diseases except Tuberculosis. Whole carcasses condemned	—	2	1	24	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	4	1	2	13	76
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than Tuberculosis	5.5%	13.6%	4.8%	6.6%	5.2%
Tuberculosis only. Whole carcasses con- demned	1	2	—	—	11
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	15	4	—	—	128
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tub- erculosis	22.2%	27.3%	—	—	9.2%

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

CANCER.

The death rate from cancer was 2.94, the number of deaths being 54.

There is nothing special to record about the prevalence of notifiable infectious diseases during 1937. A widespread epidemic of influenza occurred during the early part of the year. Although it was widespread it was not of a serious type. The majority of cases recovered within a period of 10-14 days.

PREVENTION OF BLINDNESS.

This is under the control of the County Council.

TUBERCULOSIS.

No action required to be taken under the Public Health Prevention of Tuberculosis Regulations, 1925, or under Section 62 of the Public Health Act, 1925, or Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

The number of new cases and deaths notified during 1937 is as follows:

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES.

Age Periods.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	1	1	—
5—15	1	2	1	1
15—25	6	3	4	2
25—35	5	8	1	—
35—45	6	4	—	—
45—55	8	1	—	1
55—65	5	1	—	—
65 onwards	2	—	—	—
Totals	33	20	7	4

DEATHS.

Age Periods.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1	—	—	—	—
1—5	—	2	1	—
5—15	1	—	—	—
15—25	—	1	—	—
25—35	2	2	—	—
35—45	2	—	—	—
45—55	1	—	—	—
55—65	2	1	—	—
65 onwards	—	—	—	—
Totals	8	6	1	—

PHYSICAL FITNESS CAMPAIGN.

A certain amount was done to further physical fitness and to educate the public in this district. Lectures and instructions were given in all the schools by the Education Authority. Private organisations in a few instances did what they could. The classes for physical training, organised by the Evening Institutes and held at some of the schools, have been well attended by enthusiasts of both sexes.

I brought this matter of the Campaign, launched by the Prime Minister in the Autumn, to the attention of this authority. They decided, without any appreciable discussion or consideration, that they would take no part in this Campaign.

AIR RAID PRECAUTIONS.

I am not able to report any real progress in this district. The fact that the Government propose now to pay up to 90 per cent. of the expenses should help to get a move on. I have personally given a considerable amount of time to the consideration of a scheme for this district, and I am prepared to put forward a scheme whenever this authority is ready to receive it. I hold the same views as expressed in my report for 1936.

In closing this Report, I wish to tender my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Urban District Council for their

support and help; also to the Clerk and all my fellow officers of this Authority for their willing help to me in my work, and for their work for the District in their various departments.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

J. DOUGLAS WELLS.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	10	1	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	9	—	—
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	19	1	—

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars	Found	Number of Defects	
		Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector
Nuisances under Public Health Acts—			
Want of cleanliness	1	1	—
Sanitary Accommodation—			
Insufficient	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	1	1	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—
Total	2	2	—

Outwork in Unwholesome Premises, Section 108.

Nature of Work	Instances	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel—			
Making, etc.	22	—	—
Umbrellas, etc.	1	—	—
Total	23	—	—

